



**ARIZONA READY EDUCATION COUNCIL
K-20 EDUCATION FUNDING TASKFORCE**

**June 7, 2012 @ 7:30-9:30am
1700 W. Washington, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Phoenix, AZ 85007**

Meeting Notes

Members Present: Dr. Craig Barrett, Jaime Molera, Dr. Michael Kearns (telephonic), Colleen Niccum, Tim Carter, Susan Carlson, Chuck Essigs, Jay Kaprosy, Alan Maguire (telephonic), Stacey Morley, and Doreen Zannis.

Members Absent: Dr. Tom Anderes, Onnie Shekerjian, Hugh Hallman, and

Staff: Rebecca Gau, Debra Raeder-Gay, and Dale Frost

1. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Barrett called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m., provided welcoming remarks and reviewed the purpose of this meeting to:

- Continue discussion on the K-12 Funding System including analysis of other states' efforts
- Continue discussion on first set of recommendations for the Council
- Discuss NGA Resource Allocation Policy Academy.

Dr. Barrett indicated that Dr. Tabitha Grossman, Program Director, and Kate Nielson Policy Analyst, for the Education Division of the National Governor's Association would be joining our meeting today. As a participant in NGA's Policy Academy on Resource Reallocation, Dr. Grossman and Ms. Nielson are here for Arizona's first site visit and to work with the Policy Academy Team. Dr. Grossman will engage with the taskforce regarding the work of the Policy Academy later in the meeting.

2. Review & Discussion: K-12 Funding System

• Update on Request for Initiative Analysis

In regard to the Taskforce request for an Initiative Analysis, Dale Frost indicated that a formal analysis will be done by the Leg Council as the initiative prepares to go to the ballot. It appears that the Initiative may face some legal challenges and that it would be premature to discuss the cause and or outcome of these challenges. Dr. Barrett reiterated

that the work of the taskforce is separate and apart from the Initiative. Dr. Barrett stated that there is a process that the Initiative must work through and while this process is occurring the taskforce needs to keep moving forward with its work.

- **Update on ABEC plan calculations**

Kerry McConnell introduced Carissa Cyr, a new project manager in the Governor's Office of Education Innovation. Carissa will take over the work on the ABEC plan calculations. Kerry indicated that staff has met with ABEC staff and the ABEC consultant and work continues to develop this information.

3. Review & Discussion: Taskforce Recommendations

- **Analysis of other states' funding models**

Rebecca Gau provided a brief overview of the research provided by the NGA on other states' funding models. The Taskforce had requested a review of Arkansas, Indiana and Wyoming. NGA also provided information on Oregon, Minnesota and Texas. Of these six models, the Wyoming model is most similar to the ABEC proposed model. The next steps will be to evaluate notable ideas from each of these six models for budget impact and political viability.

- **Staff Recommendations**

Dale Frost presented five recommendations for Taskforce review and discussion (attached hereto). All five of the recommendations were discussed in detail by the Taskforce and the Taskforce offered some sound suggestions on how to make the recommendations even better. Staff will take these suggestions and incorporate into the recommendations for further discussion at the next meeting of the Taskforce.

4. Update & Discussion: NGA Resource Allocation Policy Academy

Dr. Tabitha Grossman, NGA Center staff, provided an introduction to the policy academy and its objectives. She reviewed the state's work plan and proposed technical assistance plan. The Taskforce discussed current progress and potential concerns and barriers to the development of recommendations that will better align education funding in Arizona to the state's school accountability system, reform ineffective funding mechanisms, and incentivize best practices.

5. Taskforce Comments

- **Next Steps**

Dr. Barrett reviewed next steps:

- Continued work to cost out ABEC funding model (assuming no new funds)
- Continue to refine first set of recommendations
- Update on work of the NGA Resource Allocation Policy Academy

- 2012 Taskforce Meeting Schedule –
 - August 1
 - September 6
 - October 1
 - November 1
 - December 6

6. Call to the Public

Dr. Craig Barrett

There was no request from the public to address the Taskforce.

7. Adjourn

Dr. Craig Barrett

With no further business before the Taskforce, Dr. Barrett adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.